

REMARKS

Consideration and entry of this amendment are respectfully requested in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.312. The issue fee will be paid on or before July 18, 2008 and after this 1.312 Amendment filing.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for extending the courtesy of a telephonic interview on April 10, 2008, resulting in a prompt indication of allowance of this application on April 18, 2008. The Examiner's amendment issued April 18, 2008, comprises three independent claims and 17 claims total. Claims 42, 44 and 45 are independent. All dependent claims depend from claim 42. Applicants were not afforded the opportunity to request new dependent claims dependent from claims 44 and 45 during the interview.

This is to respectfully request that new claim 77/44 which is related to allowable subject matter of claims 52 and 54 be entered, new claim 78/45 which is likewise related to claims 52 and 54 be entered and new claim 79/45 which is related to allowable subject matter of claims 50 and 51 be entered.

This amendment could not have been presented earlier because agreement on allowance of the then pending claims was reached during the telephonic interview when addition of new dependent claims dependent on solo independent claims 44 and 45 and related to allowed subject matter was not possible.

No claim fees are due for entry of this amendment because the number of claims after entry will comprise 3 independents and 20 claims total.

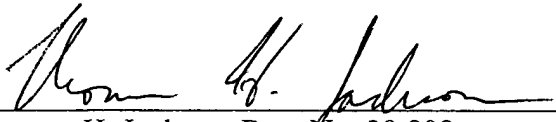
U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/767,776
Attorney Docket No. 204842.001DIV2

If any fees are required to facilitate entry and consideration of this Amendment, the fees may be charged to Deposit Account 02-4300; Order No. 204842.001DIV2.

Respectfully submitted,

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